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10/015,613	12/17/2001	Patrick Baudisch	D/A1188	5897

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EXAMINER

RICHER, AARON M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2628

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/015,613	Applicant(s) BAUDISCH, PATRICK	
	Examiner Aaron M. Richer	Art Unit 2628	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner:
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments filed May 24, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
2. As to claims 1, 11, and 22, applicant argues that neither the Reddy reference nor the Genetten reference teaches a display area with differing resolutions wherein a single image is displayed continuously to a viewer. Applicant further argues that the combination of the Reddy and Genetten references would result in a concatenated display of two separate images rather than one continuous one. Examiner respectfully disagrees with this argument noting that the Genetten reference was brought in to solve this problem in Reddy. The Reddy reference has been relied upon to teach the two display system wherein each display has a different resolution. The Genetten reference was brought in to teach that separate display devices can display a single continuous image as previously described in the rejection to claim 1. The effect of the combination of teachings is that the multi-image, multi-resolution displays of Reddy are modified to display a single continuous image using the teachings of Genetten directed to multi-segment display devices, which are in effect also plural displays. Applicant's arguments fail to account for the fact that Genetten teaches that display of a single continuous image on multi-display devices is advantageous, the reason being that power can be saved (col. 1, line 61-col. 2, line 19; col. 2, lines 21-32).
3. As to claims 7-10, 15, and 17-21, the above arguments also apply. Applicant further argues that the Ohzawa reference is not concerned with discontinuities in the

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image. It is noted that the Ohzawa reference is only brought in to teach a third or fifth display with differing resolution. The Genetten reference is still relied upon to teach a single image across multiple displays, and while the Genetten reference only teaches two displays, the teachings can be equally applied to many more displays.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reddy (U.S. Patent 6,215,459) in view of Gennetten (U.S. Patent 6,812,907).

6. As to claims 1, 4, 11, and 22, Reddy discloses a display comprising at least two display devices,

each display device having a display area with a given display resolution wherein the display resolution of at least one display area is different from the display resolution of at least one other display area (col. 8, lines 4-22), and an associated image processor for provided image data (fig. 7, elements 730, 104, 106 and elements 732, 105, 107; while both LCD and CRT are attached to the same overall video controller, the separate DAC and Flatpanel Controller read on separate image processors),

and the displayed resolution of the portion of an image displayed on one of the at least two display areas is different than the displayed resolution of the portion of the

image displayed resolution of the portion of the image displayed on at least one other of the two display areas (col. 8, lines 4-22).

Reddy does not disclose a boundary wherein the boundary of each display area is at least partially contiguous with the boundary of at least one other display area, nor does Reddy disclose the display devices being so constructed and arranged such that when an image is displayed across at least two display areas using image information data received from the associate image processors, the resulting displayed image is perceived as substantially continuous to a viewer situated to view the image.

Gennetten, however, discloses two separate display devices (col. 9, lines 16-29) that are contiguous (figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5), such that a single image is continuous across the two display areas (col. 2, lines 21-33; large images are displayed across both displays continuously). The motivation for this is to enable detailed view of an image without unnecessarily wasting power (col. 1, line 61-col. 2, line 19). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Reddy to display an image continuously over two devices in order to enable detailed view of that image as taught by Gennetten.

7. As to claims 2, 12, and 23, Reddy discloses a display wherein one display device comprises an LCD display (col. 2, lines 53-56).

8. As to claims 3, 13, and 24, Reddy discloses a display wherein one display device comprises a projector and a projection surface (col. 3, lines 10-30).

9. As to claims 5 and 25, Gennetten discloses a display wherein one display area is adjacent to another display area (figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5).

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10. As to claims 6, 14, 26, and 27, Gennetten discloses a display wherein the first display area is surrounded by the second display area (figs. 2 and 3).

11. As to claim 16, Reddy discloses a display wherein there are 2 display areas (fig. 7).

12. Claims, 7-10, 15, and 17-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Reddy in view of Gennetten and further in view of Ohzawa (U.S. Patent 6,803,884).

13. As to claim 7, neither Reddy nor Gennetten discloses a third display device having a third display area with third display resolution, wherein the third display resolution is different from at least one of the first display resolution and the second display resolution, and a third boundary. Ohzawa, however, discloses a third display with high resolution compared to the other displays (col. 5, lines 4-20; LCD 11 is the center LCD in fig. 1). The advantage of the high resolution display is that it can be used to create a sharp projection image (col. 5, lines 4-20). It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to modify Reddy and Gennetten to use a third display with higher resolution than the other two in order to create a sharp projection image as taught by Ohzawa.

14. As to claims 8, 10, 15, and 19, Ohzawa discloses a three display system wherein two displays surround a first display, as described in the rejection to claim 7. Gennetten further discloses a display wherein the first display area fully surrounds the second display area as described in the rejection to claim 6. The teachings of Gennetten can be equivalently applied to a three display system, creating a three display system in

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which two displays are surrounded by another display, and in which a display is surrounded by a display which is surrounded by another display. Motivation for this combination is found in the rejection to claim 1 and the rejection to claim 7.

15. As to claims 9, 20, and 21, Ohzawa discloses a display wherein in the second and third display areas are spaced apart with a portion of the first display area interposed there between (fig. 2; note that part of image m1 is between the other images, while part is above or below the space between the other images).

16. As to claims 17 and 18, Ohzawa discloses 3 display areas (fig. 1) and 5 display areas (fig. 7). See the rejection to claim 7 for motivation to add a third or fifth high-resolution display to combination of Reddy and Gennetten.

Conclusion

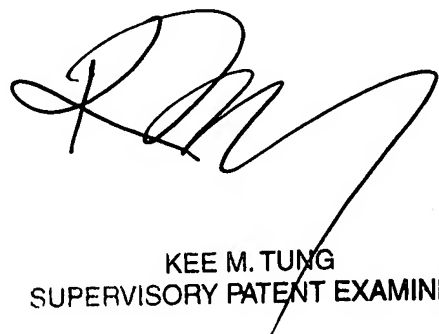
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron M. Richer whose telephone number is (571) 272-7790. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 8:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272-7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AMR
6/13/07



KEE M. TUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER